

## OPINION 1250

*GYROHYPNUS* SAMOUELLE, 1819, EX LEACH MS,  
*XANTHOLINUS* DEJEAN, 1821, EX DAHL, AND *OTHIOUS*  
STEPHENS, 1829, EX LEACH MS (INSECTA, COLEOPTERA):  
TYPE SPECIES DESIGNATED FOR THESE GENERA

RULING. — (1) Under the plenary powers, all designations of type species hitherto made for the three nominal genera named below are hereby set aside, and

- (a) *Staphylinus fracticornis* O. F. Müller, 1776 is hereby designated as the type species of *Gyrophypnus* Samouelle, 1819, ex Leach MS;
- (b) *Staphylinus linearis* Olivier, 1794 is hereby designated as the type species of *Xantholinus* Dejean, 1821, ex Dahl;
- (c) *Staphylinus punctulatus* Goeze, 1777 is hereby designated as the type species of *Othius* Stephens, 1829, ex Leach MS.

(2) The following generic names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) *Gyrophypnus* Samouelle, 1819, ex Leach MS (gender: masculine), type species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1)(a) above, *Staphylinus fracticornis* O. F. Müller, 1776 (Name Number 2190);
- (b) *Xantholinus* Dejean, 1821, ex Dahl (gender: masculine), type species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1)(b) above, *Staphylinus linearis* Olivier, 1794 (Name Number 2191);
- (c) *Othius* Stephens, 1829, ex Leach MS (gender: masculine), type species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1)(c) above, *Staphylinus punctulatus* Goeze, 1777 (Name Number 2192);
- (d) *Gauropterus* C. G. Thomson, 1869 (gender: masculine), type species, by monotypy, *Staphylinus fulgidus* Fabricius, 1787 (Name Number 2193).

(3) The following specific names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) *fracticornis* O. F. Müller, 1776, as published in the binomen *Staphylinus fracticornis* (specific name of type species of *Gyrophypnus* Samouelle, 1819, ex Leach MS) (Name Number 2855);
- (b) *linearis* Olivier, 1794, as published in the binomen *Staphylinus linearis* (specific name of type species of *Xantholinus* Dejean, 1821, ex Dahl) (Name Number 2856);

- (c) *punctulatus* Goeze, 1777, as published in the binomen *Staphylinus punctulatus* (specific name of type species of *Othius* Stephens, 1829, ex Leach MS) (Name Number 2857);
- (d) *fulgidus* Fabricius, 1787, as published in the binomen *Staphylinus fulgidus* (specific name of type species of *Gauropterus* C. G. Thomson, 1860) (Name Number 2858).

### HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.)2221

An application by Dr A. Smetana (*Biosystematics Research Institute, Ottawa, Canada*) for the resolution of problems arising from the designation of '*Staphylinus fulgidus*' as the type species of several nominal genera was first received on 22 April 1977. After some correspondence it was sent to the printer on 16 February 1979 and published on 1 July 1979 in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 36, pp. 44–52. Public notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the statutory serials, to eight general serials and seven entomological serials. No comment was received.

### DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 22 November 1982 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule in Voting Paper (1982)22 for or against the proposals set out in *Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 36, pp. 50–51. At the close of the voting period on 22 February 1983, the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative Votes—eighteen (18) received in the following order: Melville, Brinck, Mroczkowski, Uéno, Willink, Sabrosky, Schuster, Corliss, Halvorsen, Kraus, Alvarado, Trjapitzin, Hahn, Cocks, Starobogatov, Bayer, Heppell, Ride

Negative Votes—Holthuis, Savage.

Bernardi was on leave of absence. Welch returned a late affirmative vote. Dupuis abstained from voting. No votes were returned by Binder, Cogger and Lehtinen.

The following comments were returned by members of the Commission with their voting papers:

*Holthuis*: 'It seems to me that Blackwelder 30 years ago straightened out the nomenclature of these genera and evidently he is followed by North American authors. His 1952 revision of the generic names is a standard work by an accomplished coleopterist and nomenclaturist. Dr Smetana did not indicate the nomenclaturally correct names for the genera he cited as *Xantholinus*, *Othius* and *Gauropterus* nor did he give evidence of their usage. It is most aggravating that no comments were received from any coleopterist.' [A letter from Dr Smetana giving evidence of recent usage was circulated to the members of the Commission on 4 January 1983. R.V.M.]

*Savage*: 'The reasoning of Blackwelder, 1952, is correct and follows automatically from the Code. Just as much confusion results from the proposal.'

*Dupuis*: 'Je m'abstiens pour trois raisons: (1) la complication du cas; (2) mes scrupules à remettre en cause la qualité formelle du travail de Blackwelder, 1952; (3) l'explicable absence de commentaires de la part des spécialistes, alors que les coleoptéristes sont les plus nombreux parmi les taxinomistes. S'ils se désintéressent de la question, nous perdons notre temps à prendre des décisions qu'ils ne liront même pas.'

[In 1952 Dr Blackwelder should in fact have guided himself by the decision of the Paris (1948) Congress (*Bull. zool. Nom.* vol. 4, pp. 158–159) that cases of genera based on misidentified type species should be referred to the Commission. Although that decision was not incorporated into the Code until 1961, zoologists were recommended (*ibid.*, p. 342) to guide themselves by those decision pending their incorporation into a revised Code. R.V.M.]

#### ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

- fracticornis*, *Staphylinus*, O. F. Müller, 1776, *Zool. Dan. Prodr.*, p. 99  
*fulgidus*, *Staphylinus*, Fabricius, 1787, *Mantissa Ins.*, p. 220  
*Gauropterus* C. G. Thomson, 1860, *Skand. Coleopt.*, vol. 2, p. 187  
*Gyrophypnus* Samouelle, 1819, ex Kirby MS, *Entomol. useful compendium*, p. 172  
*linearis*, *Staphylinus*, Olivier, 1794, *Entomologie, hist. nat. Ins.*, vol. 3, No. 42, p. 19, pl. 4, fig. 38  
*Othius* Stephens, 1829, ex Leach MS, *Nomenclature British insects*, p. 23  
*punctulatus*, *Staphylinus*, Goeze, 1777, *Entomol. Beiträge Linne* 12. Ausgabe *Natursystems*, vol. 1, p. 730  
*Xantholinus* Dejean, 1821, ex Dahl, *Cat. coll. coleopt. Dejean*, p. 23.

#### CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the votes cast on V.P.(82)22 were cast as set out above, that the proposals contained in that voting paper have been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1250.

R. V. MELVILLE

Secretary

International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

London

30 March 1983